

G.2/Blue Paper No.3

3 April 1975

Original: ENGLISH

HISTORIC WATERS

Article 1

For an area of the sea adjacent to the coasts of a coastal State to be considered as historic waters, the following requirements must be met:

- (a) that the coastal State claiming the area as such has effectively exercised over the area acts of sovereignty during a considerable period of time. Such acts may include, inter alia, the enactment of regulations relating to the transit of vessels, fishing and other activities of nationals or vessels of other States, and must be reasonably justified by the vital interests of the coastal State and in particular defence or economic interests peculiar to the area;
- (b) that this practice is generally tolerated.

Article 2

The coastal State may claim historic waters as internal waters or as territorial sea, depending on the scope of authority it has exercised over the area.

State Dept. review completed